

General Meigs House  
1239 Vermont Ave. (SE Corner N St.  
& Vermont Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

HABS No. DC-50

HABS  
DC  
WASH  
141-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Washington 25, D. C.

General Meigs House  
1239 Vermont Ave. (SE Corner N St.  
& Vermont Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

HABS No. DC-50

HABS  
DC  
WASH  
141-

Present Owner: Columbia Technical Institute

Present Occupant and Use: Trade School

Description

Brick and stucco, first story rusticated, with quoins and medallions, modillion and dentilled cornice, mansard roof; rectangular plan entrance portico and demi-octagonal bay window. Regency style.

Chaste simplicity of the exterior stands in contrast with the interior which is rather characteristic of domestic work at the time the house was built. The home of General Meigs was built for large scale entertaining with provision for a corps of servants. The circular stair just inside the door is noteworthy for its fire-resistant character and the wood mantel of the front parlor displays French influence with a rare delicacy of handling.

Number of stories: 2½

Historical Data

Year of erection: About 1870 (with addition and alterations)

Built for (first owner): Quartermaster - General Montgomery Cunningham Meigs

Architect: General Meigs

Builder: General Meigs

Notable events and occupants:

General Meigs is recalled as the officer who suggested to President Lincoln the use of Arlington as a National Cemetery and there he was interred with high military honors in 1892. Meigs supervised the building of the wings and dome of the national Capitol from 1855 and 1859. He was architect for the Pension Office building after his retirement in 1882 and prepared plans for various public buildings in Washington.

References: HABI form prepared by Russell Jones and Worth Bailey, HABS, National Park Service, December, 1958.

Approved

Disc. Sutton  
Chief Architect

Date

Feb. 17, 1959